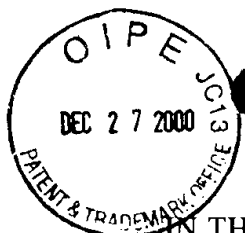


GP-16318



PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: A-66828-2/DJB/RMS/DCF

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

CHEE et al.

Serial No. 09/344,526

Filed: June 24, 1999

For: DECODING OF ARRAY SENSORS
WITH MICROSPHERES

) Examiner: Marschel, A.

) Group Art Unit: 1631

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including listed enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

Dated: 12-20-00

Signed: Christine P. Peters
Christine P. Peters

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND STATEMENT OF RELATEDNESS

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In satisfaction of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant wishes to draw the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references cited on the accompanying form PTO-1449. Reference 3 was disclosed in an Information Disclosure Statement dated December 6, 2000 but we were unable to send a copy of the reference at that time. It is enclosed herewith. Copies of all references are enclosed.

With respect to patent applications, the applicants point out their duty under M.P.E.P. §2001.06(b) to disclose relevant patent applications of which they are aware. To this end, the applicants draw the Examiner's attention to the following patent applications;

1. U.S.S.N. 09/189,543, filed November 10, 1998 entitled "Decoding of Array Sensors with Microspheres," and U.S.S.N. 60/090, 473, filed June 24, 1998 entitled "Encoding and Decoding Fiber Optic Sensors with Microspheres," upon which the instant application relies on for its priority date.
2. U.S.S.N. 09/287,573, filed April 6, 1999 entitled "Self-Encoding Sensor with Microspheres," which is a continuation of 08/944, 850, filed October 6, 1997 entitled Self-Encoding Fiber Optic Sensor."
3. U.S.S.N. 09/315,584, filed June 20, 1999 entitled "Encoding and Decoding of Array Sensors Utilizing Nanocrystals."
4. U.S.S.N. 09/256,943, filed February 24, 1999 entitled "Composite Array Utilizing Microspheres," which claims priority to U.S.S.N. 60/113,968 filed December 28, 1998.
5. U.S.S.N. 09/151,877, filed September 11, 1998, entitled "Target Analyte Sensors Utilizing Microspheres," Which is a divisional of U.S.S.N. 08/818,199, filed March 14, 1997, entitled "Fiber Optic Sensor with Encoded Microspheres."
6. U.S.S.N. 08/851,203, filed May 5, 1997, entitled "Fiber Optic Biosensor for Selectively Detecting Oligonucleotide Species in a Mixed Fluid Sample."

None of the foregoing references are believed to disclose the invention as claimed. Nothing herein shall constitute an admission concerning the contents of any of the cited

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references, nor shall the inclusion of a reference herein be considered an admission that the reference constitutes prior art against the invention claimed in the above-identified application. Submission of the present document shall not be construed as an admission that a search has been made or that better art does not exist.

A check for \$180.00 to cover the required fee is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (Our Order No. A-66828-2/DJB/RMS/DCF).

Respectfully submitted,

FLEHR, HOHBACH, TEST,
ALBRITTON & HERBERT

Dated: December 19, 2000

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